

PROCLAMATION **CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**APRIL 7-13, 2019

WHEREAS, reaching and serving all victims of crime is essential to supporting thriving communities, because those who receive holistic services and support are more likely to remain invested in their communities; and

WHEREAS, dedicated victim service providers are working every day to meet the needs of crime victims, yet there are still too many victims without meaningful access to rights and services; and

WHEREAS, we must make a dedicated effort to expand the circle of those prepared to respond to victims and link them to the resources that can help them recover; and

WHEREAS, engaging a broader array of health care providers, community leaders, faith organizations, educators and businesses can provide new links between victims and services that improve their safety, healing and access to justice; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime – especially those who are challenging to reach or serve – are offered accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Victim Services Program and all victim service programs throughout the State of North Dakota are hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for a better future for all victims and survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 7-13, 2019, **CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State